

In the Specification

On page 28, line 28, within the parentheses, delete "precipitable" and substitute therefor ---soluble---.

In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-3 and 6-8 without prejudice to the prosecution of said claims in this application or in any subsequently filed related application.

Please amend Claims 9, 12, 15, 20 and 21 as follows.

B1 9. (Amended) A [preparation of] composition comprising SNO-Hb[FeII]O₂ which is S-nitrosylated without detectable oxidation of the heme Fe.

B2 12. (Amended) A [preparation of] composition comprising SNO-Hb[FeII] which is S-nitrosylated without detectable oxidation of the heme Fe.

Sub B3 15. (Amended) A method for regulating delivery of oxygen and NO, in various redox forms, in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal a mixture of a low molecular weight thiol or nitrosothiol and hemoglobin or S-nitrosohemoglobin [, selected for the oxidation state of the heme iron and for the oxygenation state].

Sub B4 20. (Amended) A method for treating a disease in a mammal, comprising administering [a form of] SNO-Hb to the mammal, wherein the disease is selected from the group consisting of heart disease, vascular disease, atherosclerosis, lung disease and inflammation.

21. (Amended) A method for treating a medical condition in a mammal, comprising administering [a form of] SNO-Hb to the mammal, wherein the medical condition is selected from the